

Message Text

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ORIGIN IO-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07

NSAE-00 USIA-06 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 L-02 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 SAB-01 /079 R

DRAFTED BY IO/UNP:OAKLEY:EK

APPROVED BY IO:WBBUFFUM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 090043

PARIS FOR UNESCO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PORG, UNESCO, US, EG

SUBJECT: UNESCO DISCUSSION WITH EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR

1. DURING CALL ON IO ASSISTANT SECRETARY BUFFUM TO SEEK
US SUPPORT FOR CANDIDACY OF SAYED MAREI AS PRESIDENT OF THE
WORLD FOOD COUNCIL AT ROME MEETING IN JUNE, EGYPTIAN
AMBASSADOR ASHRAF GHORBAL ASKED FOR US VIEWS ON UNESCO.

2. BUFFUM GAVE BACKGROUND ON US REACTIONS TO UNESCO'S 18TH
GENERAL CONFERENCE RESOLUTIONS REGARDING ISRAEL, AND
DESCRIBED SITUATION OF CONGRESSIONAL SUSPENSION OF FUNDS
UNTIL THESE POLITICAL ACTIONS REVERSED. POINTING OUT
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FULL FORMAL REVERSAL CAN ONLY OCCUR AT NEXT GENERAL

CONFERENCE IN 1976, HE EMPHASIZED DIFFICULTY OF PRESENT SITUATION AND ASKED EGYPT FOR ANY SUGGESTIONS ON HOW TO PROCEED. BUFFUM SAID, FOR EXAMPLE, IT WOULD BE MOST HELPFUL IF FOR SAKE OF UNESCO, EGYPT MIGHT FIND IT POSSIBLE QUIETLY TO PERSUADE OTHER ARABS TO LET UP ON ANTI-ISRAELI CAMPAIGN THERE.

3. GHORBAL OPINED ISRAELI UNWILLINGNESS TO MAKE CONCILIATORY GESTURE ON UNESCO WAS PART AND PARCEL OF INFLEXIBILITY, AND SAID THE LINE HAD TO BE DRAWN EVERYWHERE SO THAT ISRAELI ATTITUDE WOULD BE FORCED TO CHANGE BY WEIGHT

OF WORLD OPINION. HE SAW MOMENTUM FOR THIS SLOWLY BUILDING IN US.

4. BUFFUM POINTED OUT THAT IF MOMENTUM BUILDING TO ENCOURAGE ISRAEL TO MAKE STEPS FOR A NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT, NOTHING SLOWS IT DOWN MORE THAN DISCRIMINATION IN UN BODIES AGAINST ISRAEL, WHICH INCREASES SYMPATHY FOR ISRAEL AND ONLY ENDS UP HURTING UN BODY. HE STATED THAT UNESCO DOES NOT SEEM THE RIGHT PLACE TO DRAW LINE, AND MENTIONED DAMAGE THAT WOULD BE DONE IF HAVANA DECLARATION EXECUTED TO EXPEL ISRAEL FROM UN.

5. GHORBAL OBSERVED PERSONALLY THAT EXPULSION OF ITALY FROM LEAGUE OF NATIONS HAD NOT SOLVED PROBLEMS, HOPED LINE COULD BE DRAWN BEFORE EXPULSION AND WAR, AND INDICATED EGYPT WOULD GIVE CAREFUL CONSIDERATION TO OUR VIEWS. KISSINGER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 18 APR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GarlanWA
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE090043
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: OAKLEY:EK
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750138-0250
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750436/aaaabhnt.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GarlanWA
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 20 MAY 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <20 MAY 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <09 SEP 2003 by GarlanWA>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
05 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNESCO DISCUSSION WITH EGYPTIAN AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PORG, US, EG, UNESCO
To: CAIRO PARIS
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006